

November 16, 2007

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WILSON BACKS NEW BILLS TO CRACK DOWN ON ONLINE PREDATORS, MAKE THE INTERNET SAFER FOR CHILDREN

Washington, D.C. – This week, Rep. Charlie Wilson (OH-6) joined an overwhelming bipartisan majority in the House of Representatives to back legislation that will crack down on online predators, stop the spread of child pornography and help make the Internet safer for children.

“Our children are our most precious resource and we must do everything we can to protect them,” Wilson said. “This legislation takes important steps to ensure that predators can’t reach into our own homes to prey on our children.”

This week, the House passed a series of bills designed that improve Internet safety. The bills include:

H.R. 3845 - PROTECT Our Children Act of 2007
H.R. 719 - Keeping the Internet Devoid of Sexual Predators Act of 2007
H.R. 4120 - Effective Child Pornography Prosecution Act
H.R. 4134 – Internet Crime Prevention Education Program Act, authored by Rep. Linda Sanchez
H.R.4136 - Enhancing the Effective Prosecution of Child Pornography Act of 2007, authored by Rep. Chris Carney
H.R. 3461 – SAFERNET (Safeguarding America’s Families by Enhancing and Reorganizing New and Efficient Technologies Act of 2007), authored by Rep. Melissa Bean

The bills increase resources to fight Internet crimes against children, authorize a new public awareness campaign to promote Internet safety and provide tough new penalties against those people and companies who produce, view and allow others to purchase child pornography. The legislation also cracks down on sex offenders by allowing judges to require convicted sex offenders to use internet tracking and filtering software that limits offenders’ access to certain material online.

In recent studies conducted by the Department of Justice, 1 in 7 children between the age of

10 and 17 received a sexual solicitation online. And 1 in 25 (or one per classroom) receives an aggressive sexual solicitation when a predator calls them on the phone, sends them gifts or requests a meeting.

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